ALIVE
6
The Final Evolution
STORY BY
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# Alive

6

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### Shigeki Katsumata
Former detective and a leader type among the "comrades" with supernatural powers. Received orders from "the One" and plans to start a world revolution.



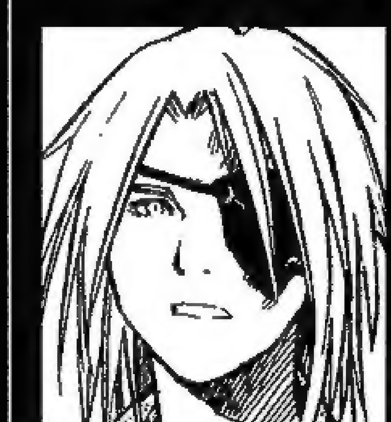
### Yuichi Hirose
Taisuke's close friend. He used to be weak and shy, but changed personalities after he acquired supernatural powers, and kidnapped Megumi. Accompanies Katsumata.



### Megumi Ochiai
Taisuke's childhood girlfriend. She always ends up arguing with Taisuke because she worries about him so much. Kidnapped by Hirose and confined in the house.



### Takumi Yura
One of Katsumata's comrades. Controls highly pressurized air bubbles, and claims to be a leader of humans, but slaughters people mercilessly. Has frizzy hair and wears coveralls.



### Kenichirou Morio
One of Katsumata's comrades. Controls wind to create sharp blades of air like a *kamaitachi* to slice humans. Hates Taisuke for leaving a permanent scar on his face.



### Gou Okada
One of Katsumata's comrades. Kills those who broke a promise with him, using his power, "Grim Reaper's Promise." Has an inferiority complex about his appearance/existence.



### Kanon Mitachi
One of Katsumata's comrades. Self-centered and moody red-haired girl who kills people with explosions on a whim. Killed Nami's younger brother.



### Ryou Fukiishi
Woman who scolded Taisuke during the first days of his journey, and embraced Yuta with her motherly instincts. Former yankee who drives a large truck, and loves her husband and daughter dearly.



### Taisuke Kanou
High school student weak in fights, but has a strong sense of justice. During "Nightmare Week," acquired a supernatural power to control heat. Currently on a journey to find Hirose and Megumi.



### Yuta Takizawa
Little boy traveling with Taisuke. Has a deep, emotional scar resulting from witnessing his mother's suicide. Has the ability to isolate space and has saved Taisuke several times already.



### Nami Kusunoki
Has power to use claws made of ice. Searching for a red-haired girl to avenge the death of her younger brother. Hates those with supernatural powers so much that she hopes they all get eliminated.



### Kyouko Amamiya
Passionate reporter of a weekly gossip magazine. Opposes the editorial policy of focusing on gossip and far-fetched occult material, and investigates the string of incidents related to the mass suicides.



### Masashi Oda
Weekly gossip magazine reporter, junior to Amamiya. Comes across as a lazy employee, but is supposedly a hard worker. Unfortunately, Amamiya drags him around.



### Youko Kanou
Taisuke's older sister and also school nurse. Strong-willed woman who raised Taisuke after their parents died.


Alive
The Final Evolution


HUMANS HAVE EMOTIONAL "HOLES" IN THEIR HEARTS.
Wanted
Police Box
FOR THOSE WITH "POWERS"...
THESE EMOTIONAL "HOLES" VARY IN SIZE.
THE BIGGER THE "HOLE," THE STRONGER THEY ARE...


Chapter 20
All I Can Do for Now...
If you despair, work on in despair.


WHOA, IT'S HIROSE...!
SHE'S BACK, TOO! I THOUGHT I GOT RID OF HER, BUT HE BROUGHT HER BACK?!
Scary!
I WONDER IF HE KNEW I BROKE THAT LOCK...
OH WELL!
HELLOOO, HIRO-CHAN. ♪ BACK FROM A DATE WITH MEGU-CHAN?





WE'RE HERE, OCHIAI-SAN.
I'M SORRY FOR LOCKING YOU UP.
YOU'RE FREE TO ROAM AROUND NOW.
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
HIROSE...
NO...


THAT'S NOT HIROSE...!!
FLAP
HOW'D HE TURN OUT, KATSUMATA?
WONDERFUL.
NOW WE'LL JUST WAIT FOR A FEW MORE COMRADES TO JOIN US BEFORE WE RETRIEVE "ACRO'S HEART," BUT...
WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH KANOU-KUN?


HIS EMOTIONAL HOLE WAS RATHER DEEP, TOO.
ON TOP OF THAT, HE IS THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS THE ABILITY TO CAUSE PERMANENT DAMAGE...
HE CERTAINLY IS AN INTERESTING CHARACTER...
Sigh
ARE YOU REGRETTING IT?
WELL, I AM A STRANGE COLLECTOR.
According to you.
EITHER WAY, TAISUKE KANOU WILL EVENTU-ALLY COME TO THE LAKE WHERE "ACRO'S HEART" SLEEPS...
WE ONLY NEED ONE "VESSEL."
"THE ONE" SAID.


TO DIE, OF COURSE.
AUUUUUUUUGGGHHHH!
PADDLE
PADDLE
PADDLE
PADDLE


PADDLE
PADDLE
PADDLE
WHERE ARE YOU, KATSU-MATA!?
HOLD IT, TAISUKE!
いちゃ いちゃ
LOVEY-DOVEY
YOU THINK KATSUMATA'S IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?!
いちゃ いちゃ
LOVEY-DOVEY
Loooove...
URK...
HELL IF I KNOW!!
Stupid...
Stupid...
Stupid...
WOBBLE WOBBLE
びく びく
SPLASH SPLASH
びち びち
CALM DOWN ALREADY!!
IT'S HARD TO CALM DOWN WITH ALL THIS...
Smoochie...
Oooohh...


BY THE WAY, YUTA, ARE YOU LOOKING FOR KATSUMATA?!
Katsumata
WELL...
OUR ONLY HINT IS THE "LAKE," WHICH IS TOO VAGUE!
AND EVER SINCE YOU LEFT THE HOSPITAL, YOU'VE BEEN SO...
...WHAT'S UP?
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
SMOOCH
ちゅ
COVER
Kyaah
BWAH!?
かぁぁあ
BLUSH


YANK
AH!
NA-NAMI, WAIT!
Just a little more...
WHAT? WHAT'S HAPPENING?!
KATSUMATA IS NOT HERE...!
Boat Renta
BUMMER...
?
HMMMM...
OKAY, LET'S GO TO THIS LAKE NEXT!
HEY, WHY ARE WE CHECKING OUT ALL THE LAKES? WHAT GIVES?
ERR...
IN THE HOSPITAL, KATSUMATA SAID...

THE EMOTIONAL "HOLES" IN HUMAN HEARTS VARY IN SIZE.
"THEY" FILL OUR EMOTIONAL HOLES,
IN YOUR CASE,
ONE IS...
GUILT...


は
KATSU-MATA SAID SOME-THING...?
YOU SAW HIM!?
HE SAID, "W-WE WILL HEAD FOR A 'LAKE.' "
!!
AT MY BEDSIDE.
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE THAT?!
BUT KATSUMATA REALLY SAID IT!
MAYBE IT'S JUST YOUR DREAM!!
THAT'S THE ONLY CLUE WE HAVE, SO LET'S GO!
H-HEY!
GEEZ!


WHAT SHOULD I DO...
405
Yoko and Taisuke Kanou
Ummm
Ummm
...HEY!
WHAT'S A YANKEE DOING IN FRONT OF MY PLACE!? BREAKING IN!?
AGH!?


AWE-SOME!
DO YOU WANT YOKO-SENSEI TO REEDUCATE YOU?!
I love YOKO-sensei
Yoko-sensei, you're number one! ♡
VWOOOSH
YOROSHIKU!!!!
All teachers go to hell!
Graduation
Ruri Tateha
I'M RYO, BENTEN OF THE LADIES' GROUP, RURI TATEHA!
BA-BAM
Hard core all the way
I-I'M YOKO KANOU. NICE TO MEET YOU...
...ERR, UHH...
I'M RYO FUKIISHI. NICE TO MEET YOU...


TAISUKE'S FRIEND, HUH... I REALLY THOUGHT YOU WERE BREAKING IN...
It's happened before.
I'M SORRY. I KEEP REVERTING TO MY OLD WAYS...
Taisuke Kan Tokyo Nakano Heights...
SHE SEEMS TO BE JUST LIKE ME...
RYO-SAN, WHERE'D YOU GET THIS PICTURE?
Hey!
SOME FLAT-CHESTED REPORTER NERD WITH GLASSES GAVE IT TO ME.
Don't say that!
OH, THE FLAT-CHESTED ONE...
I DECIDED TO DROP BY ON THE WAY BACK HOME...
Butterfly Association
What's this?
Wow


AND?
......
YOUR BROTHER IS DOING FINE.
HE'S STILL TRAVELING AT A GOOD PACE.
Y- YOU MET TAISUKE...?!
YES, DURING HIS TRIP...
WHEN?! WHERE?! HOW'S HE DOING?!
WHAT DID YOU TALK ABOUT?!
...TAISUKE SAID...


IT'S MY FAULT THAT SOME PEOPLE DIED.
AND IF I STICK AROUND, MY SISTER WOULD BE IN DANGER.
THAT'S WHY I CAN'T GO HOME...
UNTIL EVERYTHING IS OVER.
"MY FAULT"...?
WHY IS HE STILL THINKING LIKE THAT...!
I WASN'T SURE IF I SHOULD TELL YOU OR NOT, BUT...
I THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW HOW HE WAS DOING, AT LEAST.


IT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT...!
DO YOU KNOW...
WHERE HE IS?
......
...YES.


DON'T WORRY.
I'M NOT GONNA GO AFTER HIM.
Strange Deaths of Four High Schoolers and a Male Teacher
Suspect a Male Student
Mysterious Explosion in Residence
Apartment resident found dead
HE CHANGED AFTER THE SUICIDE FIASCO.
AND I KNOW HE'S MIXED UP IN SOMETHING...
BUT IN HIS LETTER, HE WROTE "I'LL BE BACK, SO UNTIL THEN, DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME."
SO, I'LL TAKE HIS WORD AND WAIT FOR HIS RETURN.
Once I bring back Megu and Hiro, I'll explain.
Until then, don't worry about me.
So, I'm leaving.
Taisuke
CLINK RUSTLE
BUT... I'M TIRED OF WAITING ALONE.
WANNA JOIN ME?



OH, BUT I'M DRIVING!
THEN SPEND THE NIGHT HERE!
SHICHI
ICHU
DRAFT
DRAFT
TAISUKE...
YOU'D BETTER COME BACK IN ONE PIECE!
Darlin' ?!
Darlin', can I stay over?


Students questioned for brutal high school murders
...gumi (16)
Yuichi Hirose (16) (Boy H)
Missing
Taisuke Kanou (16)*
...OH?
TAISUKE KANOU'S PHOTO IS MISSING.
*Childhood friends of both
HEY, ODA-CHAN! DID YOU TOUCH MY FILE?!
NOPE. MAYBE YOU DID SOMETHING WITH IT, AMAMIYA-SAN?
Sender: Editor in Chief <yo-
Recipient: yo-heydo7785
Subject: Orders from the edito
Amamiya-kun,
Earlier today, in Hokkaido, three policemen were killed. Attached are the address and case files. Go to the crime scene now and write up a report on it, since I'm assuming that you and Oda are just bumming around.
Of course, if you don't write a good article you're dead meat. ♪
THE CHIEF ORDERED US TO GO TO THE NEXT CRIME SCENE...
AWW, I NEEDED THAT PHOTO FOR MY NEXT ARTI-CLE, TOO...
That was my only pic.
VMM
?
OH YEAH, I HANDED IT TO HER...


Three policemen dead
Earlier today
lice bo
people
were
and
investi
the only
according to witness, suspect was a teenage boy, killing
there were many mysterious holes in the walls
Police Box
THERE WERE MANY MYSTERIOUS HOLES IN THE WALLS...
NIGHT BEFORE HIS DISAPPEAR- ANCE
WHERE IS BOY H NOW?
MYSTE- RIOUS HOLES IN THE ROOF WALL
THERE WERE HOLES IN THE WALL AT TAISUKE KANOU'S SCHOOL, TOO.
ACCORDING TO THE WITNESS, THE SUSPECT WAS A TEENAGE BOY.
IT MIGHT BE TAISUKE KANOU!
BUT LOOK AT THIS ATROC- ITY...!
HOW HEINOUS. NOW I REALLY DON'T WANT TO SEE TAISUKE KANOU...
WE'RE SO CLOSE TO THE TRUTH! LET'S HURRY, ODA-CHAN!
OH GOOOOSH


OKAY!
WE'LL CAMP HERE TONIGHT!!
YOU MEAN WE'RE CAMPING AGAIN, RIGHT?
Campgrounds
WELL, YUTA AND I WILL SET UP THE TENTS,
SO YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF DINNER, NAMI!
First time eating your cooking!
...WHAT SHOULD I MAKE?
THE BASIC CAMP FOOD, OF COURSE...
RUSTLE
ゴソゴソ
RUSTLE



IT'S ALL YOURS!
Sweet
SYRUP CURRY
Stew
Bear honey
Supersweet
7 servings
SWEET SYRUP CURRY
CURRY RICE!!
DEADLY AURA!!


WH-DAM
SEEY!!
. . . . .
!!
Pheeew
VWIINNG
FORGET IT. YOU MAKE DINNER, TAISUKE.
What's "seey"?
WHAT KUNG-FU MOVE WAS THAT...?
THEN NAMI WILL DO...
TNK
TNK


WOW, COOL!!
LOOKS GOOD!!
CRUMBLE
I STRUGGLED A BIT WITH THIS, THOUGH...!
BUT DIDN'T YOU MAKE TOO MUCH?
All this and curry, too.
Y-YOU THINK SO?
WHERE'S NAMI?
PROBABLY IN THE TENT.
NAMI.


NAMI, DINNER'S READY...
DEEEH!!?


AH...
NO...!!
KYAAA
AAAAA!!
W-
WHAT
WAS
THAT
VOICE...?!
IS
NAMI
OKAY?!
TMP
N...
NOTHING'S
WRONG.
STAB
!?
GULP
SSHHWW
THIS IS A
TYPICAL
REACTION,
SO I
SHOULD
BE
OKAY...
BUT...
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
BUT...
YOUR HEAD
IS FROZEN!?
Pull
it
off!!


GZZ...
NAMI...
COME EAT WITH US...
GEEZ, WHAT DID YOU DO, TAISUKE?!
Bfft
COUGH
HACK COUGH
I– I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!
DON'T TALK ABOUT IT!
COUGH
I GUESS. YOU'RE GROSS!
You're slobbering.
CHNK


KTNK
KTNK
......
DEVILZ
666
Refreshing
LE


...OKAY!
...MAYBE WE SHOULD...
BRING SOME FIRECRACKERS NEXT TIME!
FIRE-CRACKERS...?
WHEN WE'RE ABOUT TO FIGHT KATSUMATA SOON...?
HEY, NAMI.
ISN'T HE ACTING KINDA FUNNY?
LET'S KNOCK SOME SENSE INTO HIM!



.......
HE... SEEMS TO BE TRY- ING TOO HARD...
AND EVER SINCE YOU LEFT THE HOSPITAL, YOU'VE BEEN SO...
TRYING TOO HARD...?
Garbage Shack
SPLASH
SPLASH
VSSSSHHH
Cans


AN EMPTY CAN WAS STUCK UNDER THE BRAKES...?!
Lemon
14% Lemon Juice
Refreshing
THOSE TWO DIED BECAUSE OF THIS...?


ORANGE
ORANGE JUICE
Taisuke


Kindergarten
SPLASH
NO! RIGHT NOW...
DAMMIT!!
I NEED TO FOCUS ON WHAT I CAN DO!!
WHAT I CAN DO NOW...


IS BRING BACK MEGU AND HIRO!!
I DON'T WANT TO REGRET ANYMORE.
EVER...!


...PHEW!
OH GOD...
PUTT
OUT OF GAS?!
PUTT
PUTT
OH GOD! HOW ARE WE GOING TO WRITE AN ARTICLE ABOUT THAT POLICE BOX!
You made the wrong turn!
The car navigation system was wrong.
IT'S ALREADY DARK, SO WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING.
AND I'M SOOO HUNGRY...
Road Map


ODA-CHAN, GO FIND SOME GAS!
THERE'S NO WAY IN THESE MOUNTAINS...
SEMPAI'S ORDERS... FIND SOME GAS!
Drill an oil field if need be.
...ROGER
AMAMIYA-SAN IS SO RUTHLESS!
SHE'S USUALLY SENSITIVE ABOUT HER OLDER AGE, BUT SHE PULLS RANK WHEN IT'S TO HER ADVANTAGE...
CHIRP
CHIRP
B-BUT IT'S SO SCARY OUT HERE...
CAW
CAW
I CAN'T SEE A THING.
I HOPE A BEAR DOESN'T COME OUT...


BEAR!!
H– HUH?
PERSON?!
O– OH, A PERSON!
IT FREAKED ME OUT!
TH–THANK GOD! I DIDN'T THINK I'D RUN INTO A PERSON OUT HERE!
M–ME TOO... BUT WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE?
WELL...


...HE'S LATE!
WE'RE SO CLOSE TO CATCHING TAISUKE KANOU, BUT WE'RE STUCK HERE.
I'M SO UNLUCKY!
SWING SWING
IF ODA-CHAN COMES BACK WITH NOTHING, I'LL PUNCH...
あはは A HA HA
ははは HA HA HA
YOU HAVEN'T EATEN DINNER YET?
YEAH, WE'RE SOOO HUNGRY...


WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN US THEN?
I MADE A LOT OF CURRY!
REALLY!? ALL RIGHT!!


AMAMIYA-SAAAN!
HE'S CAMPING NEARBY.
IT'S LATE, SO WE SHOULD CAMP OUT TONIGHT!
SCRATCH SCRATCH
PHEW
WE MET SUCH A NICE PERSON! WE'RE SO LUCKY!
AND HE MADE DINNER, TOO!
RUB RUB
GA-CHAK
O-ODA-CHAN, IS HE...
KA...
KA...
KANOU...


GOOD EVENING.
GOSH! NOT "KANOU," HE SAID "CURRY"...
Curry?
SPURT
BFFT
TAISUKE KANOU!!
FLINCH
WH...
WHY DO YOU KNOW MY NAME...?
TMP
TMP
TMP




**Chapter 20/ End**

# Alive

## The Final Evolution


ブロロロ…
VRMMM
シャカシャカシャカシャ
PEDAL
PEDAL
PEDAL
PEDAL
WHISPER
I WANNA... G-GO HOME...
WHISPER
A... AMAMIYA-SAN...
WHISPER
WHISPER
STUPID! I TOLD YOU TO ACT NATURALLY!
WHISPER
WHISPER
BUT...
WHISPER



Phew
WE MIGHT BE HARBORING MURDERERS...
AND HE'S...
FOLLOWING US ON HIS BIKE...
THAT KID HAS FREAKY LEG POWER...!
Y-YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE AFRAID, ODA-CHAN!
WE NEED TO CONTINUE THIS REPORT TO DIG OUT THE TRUTH!




## Chapter 21

## If He's No Longer Who He Was...?

*Several faces.*


LAST NIGHT
PLIMP
HERE'S SOME GAS.
IT'S FROM THE CAMP MANAGER...
AH...THANK YOU! WE CAN USE OUR CAR AGAIN.
CHOMP
CHOMP
I want some beer.
LET'S RUN AWAY. W-WE MIGHT GET KILLED...!!
But this tastes good.
Tea
CLANG
Mine!
HUSH! DON'T GET SO EXCITED!
WE'RE GONNA FOLLOW TAISUKE KANOU!



WHAA?! YOU'RE OUT OF YOUR MIND!
IT'S OUR CHANCE FOR A SCOOP! LISTEN, WE CAN'T LET THEM KNOW WE'RE REPORTERS!
AMAMIYA-SAN, YOU'RE CRAZY...!
POKE
UMM...
HOW DID YOU KNOW MY NAME?
TAISUKE KANOU!!
SEEMS LIKE YOU WERE LOOKING FOR ME, TOO...
WE FOUND YOU!!
JOLT
U-UHH, WERE WE LIKE THAT?
FIB
FIB
UMM, WELL...
KANOU... KA... CURRY...
Well, err...
Owwie
Hah!

# *WE LIKE CURRY!!*




YOU SHOULD LEAVE SOON.
YEAH.
IT'S DANGEROUS TO BE WITH US...
UH...WHAT...
DO YOU MEAN BY THAT...?
THERE HAVE BEEN A LOT OF STRANGE CRIMES RECENTLY, RIGHT?
Well...
WELL, SOMEHOW WE SEEM TO GET MIXED UP IN THEM.


AMAMIYA-SAN...!
OH REALLY?! WHAT A COINCIDENCE!
THE NEXT PLACE WE'RE GOING IS...
OUR HOBBY IS TO CHECK OUT THOSE STRANGE CRIME SCENES!
A POLICE BOX THAT WAS TORN APART OVERNIGHT AND IS NOW FULL OF HOLES...!
WANTE
Police Box
YES.
THE WALLS WERE FULL OF ROUND HOLES...
HOLES?


FWOOOOSH
......
......
HE'S THE CULPRIT...
WHERE?
EH?
Pardon?!
GOTCHA!
GRIN
LOOKS LIKE HE KNOWS SOMETHING!
IT'S BECAUSE...


PLEASE TELL ME THE LOCATION...
OF THE POLICE BOX WITH THOSE HOLES!!
HEH? TELL YOU...?
JUST AS I THOUGHT!


TAISUKE KANOU IS THE CULPRIT...!
GLUB GLUB
GLEAM
BECAUSE CRIMINALS ALWAYS RETURN TO THEIR CRIME SCENES, THAT'S WHY...!
UH ACTUALLY, WE'RE TAKING HIM THERE.
BUT HE DIDN'T SEEM TO KNOW ABOUT IT, THOUGH.
HE'S JUST ACTING INNOCENT!
WAAAAUGH!
OHH...HE ASKED US TO TAKE HIM TO THAT POLICE BOX, BUT...
Want some candy?
Milk candy
I JUST WANNA RUN AWAY!
Eek
PEDAL-PEDAL-PEDAL


!
B-BUT THIS BOY, TAISUKE KANOU...
SKREEEEEECH
Koom
コーン
CRASH
WATCH OOOOUT
Koom
コーン
A FOX!!
ISN'T THAT INTIMIDATING...
COMMOTION...



ザワ ザワ
GATHER
GATHER
HEY, TAISUKE, HURRY UP!
A-ARE YOU OKAY?
Sorry my car's small...
ぜはー
GASP
BARELY...
ぜはー
PANT
ぜは
WHEEZE
THIS PLACE...
IS FULL OF HOLES...
KEEP OUT
KEEP OUT
KEEP OUT
KEEP OUT
KEEP OUT
KEEP OUT
Police Box


B
A
1
C
HEY...
DID YOUR FRIEND DO THIS...?
AH...
KEEP OU
....?



YEAH, WE'RE STILL AT THE POLICE BOX.
Hokkaido Police
SO HOW IS HE? DID YOU GET A STATEMENT FROM HIM?
OH, REALLY!
Pol
YES. HE FINALLY TALKED.
THIS MIGHT BE HARD TO BELIEVE, BUT...
THE WITNESS, A PATROLMAN, SAW...
spital
d on Sundays and holidays


A TEENAGE BOY.
HE APPEARED OUT OF NOWHERE...
WAS SMILING...
AND WITHOUT TOUCHING THE WALLS...
HE PUNCHED HOLES THROUGH THEM...
I-I'M SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE THAT CRAP!?
I-IT'S DEFINITELY HARD TO BELIEVE, BUT...


THERE'S MORE.
THE BOY KIDNAPPED A TEENAGE GIRL WHO CAME TO THE POLICE BOX EARLIER.
HER NAME WAS—
OCHIAI...
I SEE...
WE DON'T KNOW HIS MOTIVE AND WHAT WEAPON HE USED, BUT...
HE PROBABLY WANTED TO GET THE GIRL BACK.
DASH


BUT HE KILLED THREE COPS IN THE PROCESS...!
TH- THREE COPS...!?
YOUR FRIEND HIROSE PROBABLY KILLED THEM.
NO! HIROSE DIDN'T DO IT...


......
TA... TAISUKE...
ODA-CHAN, AFTER HIM!
D-DO WE HAVE TO...?
SO TAISUKE KANOU DIDN'T DO THIS...?
IT WAS HIROSE...?


YUICHI HIROSE!
THE BOY WHO KILLED FOUR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!
Yuichi Hirose (16)


THE LAST GROUP OF "COMRADES" WILL JOIN US IN A FEW DAYS.
ONCE THEY ARRIVE, WE'LL GO RETRIEVE "ACRO'S HEART."
WE'LL DEMOLISH THIS PLACE SOON...
SO MAKE PREPARATIONS NOW.
TMP
IT'S ABOUT TIME...
I WONDER WHAT "ACRO'S HEART" LOOKS LIKE.
?
WHAT'S THIS SMELL...?
OIL?
THIS ROOM WAS...


YURA'S ROOM...



YU-YURA!
YOU WERE AN ARTIST?
GLARE
......
Sorry to bother you, sheesh...
SCRAPE SCRAPE
HM?
HUH? ALL OF THEM ARE INCOMPLETE?
I DESTROYED ALL THE COMPLETED ONES...
CRIK CRIK
WHY? WHAT A WASTE!


I DON'T WANNA LEAVE ANYTHING BEHIND.
WHY? YOU DREW A LOT OF PIECES...
STIR STIR
KATSUMATA-SAN?
THAT'S...


FLIP
YOU SKETCHED EVERYONE ELSE, TOO...!
Okada
脱っ!?
NUDE!? YUCK!!
KATSUMATA IS INTERESTING.
WHEN YOU DRAW PEOPLE, YOU GET TO KNOW A BIT ABOUT THEM...
HIS EYES ALWAYS LOOK BEYOND THE PRESENT.
HIS TRUE OBJECTIVE IS PROBABLY BEYOND THAT OF RETRIEVING "ACRO'S HEART"...
WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT...?!
FLUTTER
...?


THERE'S NO FACE...
OH... HIROSE?
HE'S HARD TO DRAW!
HE'S EMPTY.
IT'S HARD TO SEE INSIDE HIS MIND!


......
BRUSH
HE BECAME WORSE AFTER OCHIAI RAN AWAY ONCE.
KATSUMATA IS GONNA MAKE HIROSE DO SOMETHING BIG.
DONE.
BLUB
BLU-BLUB
MORIO, FEAST YOUR EYES ON THIS. IT'S PRETTY.
H-HEY, ARE YOU REALLY GONNA DESTROY IT?!


I... LIKE MY POWER.
IT'S A BEAUTIFUL CONCEPT FOR THEM TO EXIST...
BUT LEAVE NOTHING BEHIND...
I WANNA BE LIKE THAT...!


WE'RE ABOUT TO GO RETRIEVE THAT THING, RIGHT?
!?
I CLEANED MY PLACE.
I'M READY TO GO!


...WE'LL CHECK THIS LAKE NEXT.
THIS IS TAKING FOREVER.
HOW MANY LAKES DO YOU THINK ARE IN HOKKAIDO?
...WHAT ELSE CAN WE DO BUT TO CHECK EACH ONE?


KEEP OUT
WE SHOULD TRY TO LOOK FOR CRIME SCENES LIKE THE ONE WE SAW TODAY.
IT'S EASIER TO FIND THE HOLES HE MADE WITH HIS POWERS.
MAYBE HE DID THAT TO OTHER PLACES.
YOUR FRIEND, THAT IS...
ピク
TWITCH
...WHAT?!
H-HEY, YOU GUYS...


BRMMM...
THEY'VE BEEN THERE FOR A WHILE.
I WONDER WHAT THEY'RE DOING...
ODA-CHAN, GET CLOSER! WE NEED TO WRITE A REPORT!
BRMMM...
WE SHOULD LEAVE! I DON'T WANNA DIE...!!
IF YOU RUN AWAY ALONE, I'LL PERSONALLY KILL YOU...!
URK... EITHER WAY, I'M DEAD MEAT...
Sob Sob
O-OH?! YUTA-KUN, WHAT A COINCIDENCE!
VRMMM
H-HEY BUDDY, WATCHA UP TO?
AH, YOU GUYS AGAIN...



ARGU-MENT...?
Huh, what's up?
EH-EH-EH, WHERE ARE YOU GUYS GOING? LOOKING FOR ANOTHER CRIME SCENE?
DID YOU SEE ANY OTHER STRANGE CRIME SCENES?
A FEW DAYS AGO, WE SAW A STRANGE EXPLOSION.
Flash-back
OH YEAH, THE ONE I SAW...!
A CAR SUDDENLY BLEW UP...!!
ピク
TWITCH


WHEN THE GIRL POINTED HER HAND AT THE CAR, IT EXPLODED...!!
I REMEMBER...
HER LAUGHTER AND *RED HAIR*...!
Y... YES...?



PLEASE GIVE ME MORE DETAILS...!
THIS WAS THE EXPLOSION SITE...
Direction of movement
Red-haired girl
SQUEAK
OPEN
Hokkaido MAP
AND THE POLICE BOX WAS HERE...
SQUEAK
Police box



URGH... THIS TIME, NAMI TOOK OUR BAIT.
She scared me.
Explosion search results 17 total 11
Truck Explosion
Pedestrian victims, death of one elementary student,
NAMI KUSUNOKI...
DECEASED SATORU KUSUNOKI-KUN'S OLDER SISTER...!
THEY LINE UP IN ONE DIRECTION!
Police box
Direction of movement
Red-haired girl
IT'S ON THE SAME ROAD...
SO BASED ON SIMPLE DEDUCTION, KATSUMATA'S LOCATION IS...
Police box
PAST THE POLICE BOX AND...


SQUEAK
Police box
PROBABLY SOMEWHERE IN THIS AREA.
OKAY! LET'S GO CHECK THE LAKES OVER THERE!
FOLD
YEAH!
WH-WHERE ARE YOU GUYS GOING? WOULD YOU LIKE A RIDE?
I-
IT'S ABOUT TO RAIN, SO...
Ah
What should we do?
...WAIT.


I...
WON'T GO WITH ANYONE WHO HASN'T MADE UP HIS MIND.
WHO ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT...?
.....?
I'M TALKING ABOUT YOU...
KANOU.
ポッ PLIP
ポッ PLIP
PLIP ポッ
I... HAVEN'T MADE UP MY MIND?


ARE YOU WILLING TO FIGHT...
HIROSE?
HE'S NOT LIKE KATSUMATA!!
IRK
WHY DO I HAVE TO FIGHT MY FRIEND?!
ARE YOU SURE?
What's brewing?!
YOU STILL THINK SO?
Nami...
OR PERHAPS YOU'RE IN DENIAL?
HIROSE IS ONE OF KATSUMATA'S COMRADES!


THE ONE YOU ARE CHASING...
IS NO LONGER THE PERSON YOU KNEW...
DRIZZLE

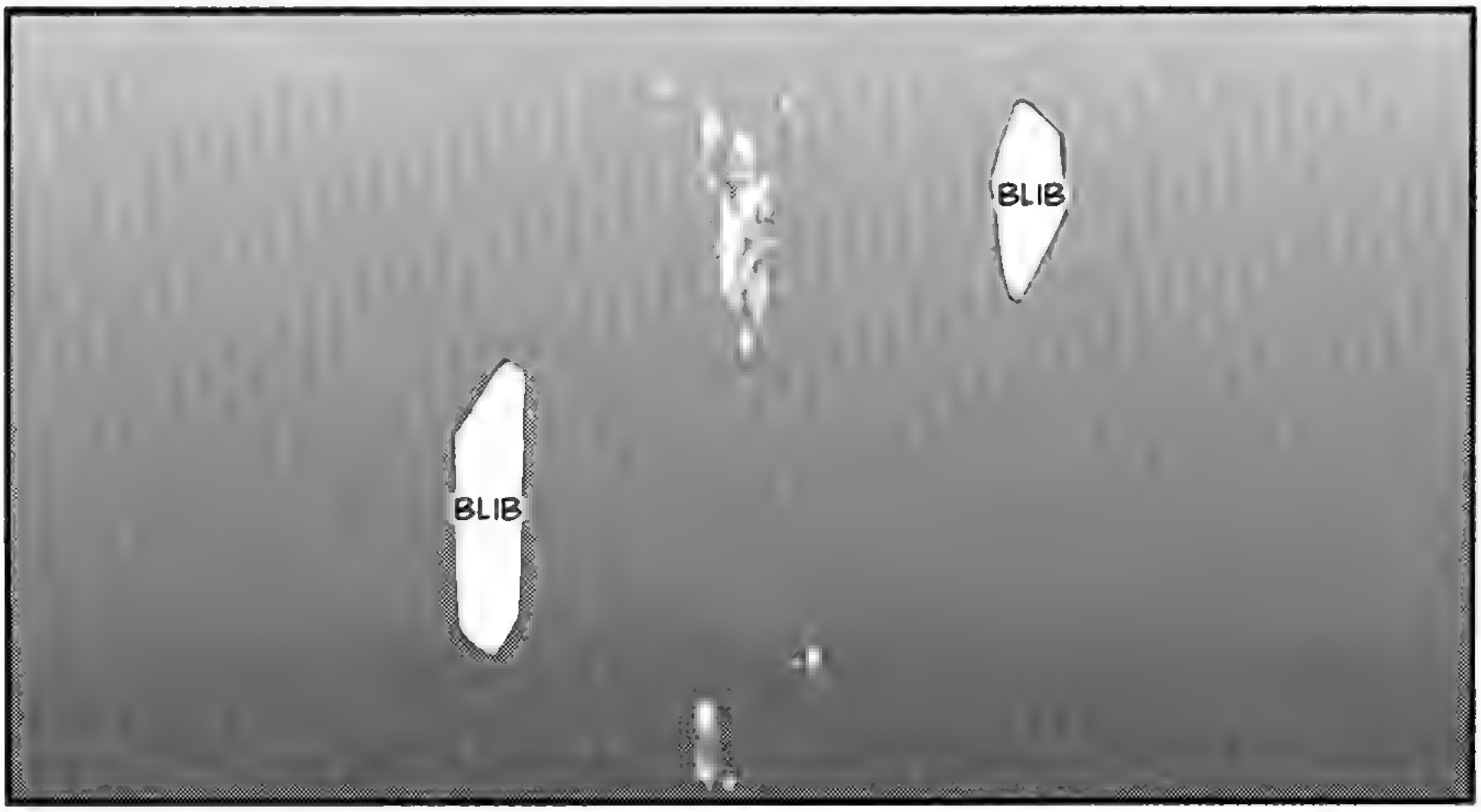

......
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO KILL HIM, THEN I CAN.
NO.
BUT...
CLENCH
IF...
IF HE IS NO LONGER THE HIRO I KNEW...
IF HE'S NO LONGER WHO HE WAS...?
WHUD


THEN I'LL KILL HIM...!!


WE'D LIKE TO CHECK OUT AN AREA.
IF YOU DON'T MIND, COULD YOU GIVE US A RIDE?
S-SURE!
......
RIDE IN THE CAR WITH HER, YUTA... SO YOU DON'T CATCH A COLD.
BUT...
DON'T WORRY.
VROOOMM
GRKK


SPLASH
DRIZZLE






Chapter 21/ End

# Alive

## The Final Evolution


OH NO...
THE LAST BUS IS ALREADY GONE...
OH WELL.
I SHOULD FIND A PLACE TO STAY TONIGHT...
COVER


OH?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
HOW NICE OF YOU, YOUNG LADY.
THIS IS A LOVELY RED UMBRELLA.
AS A TOKEN OF MY APPRECIATION...



# Chapter 22

## Everything Changed!

*Life is made up of sobs, sniffles, and smiles.*


SPECIAL INVESTIGATION OF TAISUKE KANOU, DAY 1
CLICK
FOR NOW, THE SUSPECT THAT KILLED THREE POLICE-MEN AND PUNCHED HOLES IN THE POLICE BOX...
IS MORE THAN LIKELY YUICHI HIROSE, TAISUKE KANOU'S FRIEND...
KEEP OUT
LET'S RUN AWAY. W-WE MIGHT GET KILLED...!!
Though the food is good.
Mine!
CLANG
WE HID OUR REPORTER IDENTITIES TO FOL-LOW TAISUKE KANOU, A SUSPECTED MURDERER...
BUT WE HAVEN'T UNCOVERED ANY EVIDENCE YET...
OUR MISSION IS...
TO REVEAL THE TRUTH BEHIND TAISUKE KANOU!!
BUT


ALL HE'S DOING IS LOOKING AROUND THE LAKES IN THIS AREA...
TAISUKE, DID YOU FIND ANYONE?
NO... THERE'S NO ONE AT THIS LAKE, EITHER.
SIGH ほっ
NOT FINDING KATSUMATA'S GANG HERE...
MAKES YOU SEEM MORE RELIEVED THAN DISAPPOINTED.
I'LL KILL HIM.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE READY TO FIGHT HIROSE?


I WILL...
ONCE I KNOW THAT HIRO IS ON KATSUMATA'S SIDE.
UNTIL THEN, I STILL HAVE HOPE FOR HIRO.
YOU SHOULDN'T KEEP YOUR HOPES UP TOO HIGH.
IT COULD KILL YOU.
OH, ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT ME, NAMI? HUH?
DON'T BE SO COCKY. I DON'T WANT YOU TO DRAG ME DOWN.
DIE ALONE!
Aaaah
Not again...
I NEVER ASKED YOU TO HELP ME! JUST LEAVE ME ALONE!


GUYS!!
CLICK
WE HAVEN'T FIGURED OUT THE MOTIVES OF THESE THREE...
We're not goofing around.
We're not korobok-kuru
THE MYSTERY BEHIND TAISUKE KANOU DEEPENS.
CRUNCH
NAMI IS SO BLUNT...
I CAN'T THINK OF HIRO AS THE ENEMY SO SUDDENLY...
RUSTLE
RUSTLE


Ko...
Korobo ...
A person!
GOOD AFTERNOON.
HAH, GOOD AFTER-NOON!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
IT'S DAN-GEROUS.


U-UMM...
I WAS LOOKING FOR AO...
AHO?
I hope you're not talking about me.
NO, I DIDN'T SAY AHO...!
...AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
EH? OH, I WAS LOOKING FOR SOMEONE, TOO...
EH!? IT'S GETTING LATE, SO IT'S DANGEROUS!
W-WELL, IT'S DANGEROUS FOR YOU TO BE OUT, TOO.
WHERE ARE YOU STAYING?!
I-IN A TENT?
TENT!?
THEN...
PLEASE SPEND THE NIGHT AT MY HOUSE. ♡


Rider House
Cha-cha
Restaurant and cafe
Cha-cha
COFFEE
WELCOME!
WOW! IT'S LIKE A BED-AND-BREAKFAST!
SHE WAS FISHING FOR CUSTOMERS!!
YEAH, IT WAS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE, SUCKER!
STOP IT ALREADY...
GOOD JOB, HARUKA. IT'S A LARGE GROUP!
Eh-eh-eh



Ohh, it was so cold outside...
KANOU!
PLEASE TAKE A TOWEL!
TH-THANK YOU!
HOW CAN YOU RELAX AT A TIME LIKE THIS...?!
WE'RE ABOUT TO FIGHT A DECISIVE BATTLE!
DECISIVE BATTLE?
ARE YOU TRYING TO FIGHT WITHOUT RESTING?
WE STILL HAVE TIME UNTIL DAYBREAK!
I'LL GO SEARCH FOR KATSUMATA'S GANG ONE MORE TIME...


I'LL MAKE HOT MILK FOR EVERY-ONE...
TROT
TROT
SLIP
GYAH!?
GWANG
WHUMP
HEY, HARU!!
I- I'M SO SORRY!! ARE YOU OKAY?!
N-NAMI, CALM DOWN!
PLEASE GO THIS WAY...


......
DECISIVE BATTLE, HUH...
DRIP
DRIP
SLRRSH

Rider House
Cha-cha
Restaurant and café
GEEZ, I'M TIRED!
TAISUKE AND NAMI ARE SO IMMATURE...
I WISH THEY'D UNDERSTAND MY FRUSTRATIONS, YOU KNOW...
PLINK
PLINK



PLINK...
NIB-BLE NIB-BLE
LET'S...
PLAY...


...EH?
AH
M-MAYBE ANOTHER TIME...
SEE YOU...
YUTA, DINNER'S READY!
JOLT
PLINK...
PLINK...
PLINK...


PLINK...
CHOMP
CHOMP
CHEW
CHEW
STARE
STARE
SIGH
DIIING


CLANK
CLANK
CLANK
DOES THE DINNER TASTE THAT BAD...?
NOO!! IT'S DELICIOUS, REALLY!!
UMM, DO YOU HAVE A YOUNGER BROTHER, HARU...?
NO?
TH-THEN IS THERE ANYONE ELSE STAYING HERE?
YES!


A PRIEST ALSO CAME TO STAY!
Then who was that kid....
SHIVER SHIVER SHIVER
I'LL LEAVE THE REST TO YOU, FATHER.
HARU, ARE YOU GOING OUT TO SEARCH AGAIN?
Y-YES...
IT'S TOO LATE TO GO OUT...
YOU'RE LOOKING FOR AHO, RIGHT?
Good luck.
N-NOT AHO!
I'M LOOKING FOR AO...
MY HORSE...


H-HORSE?!
YES INDEED.
We have an aho right here...
HARU ALWAYS PLAYED WITH THE HORSE.
SHE PRETTY MUCH GREW UP WITH AO.
BUT... IT HASN'T RETURNED FOR A WEEK NOW...
AO IS RATHER OLD, SO WE'RE WORRIED...
I WONDER IF IT'S HURT...
WE LOOKED AROUND THIS AREA, BUT WE DIDN'T RUN INTO ANY HORSES.
THERE'S SO MANY LAKES,
MAYBE IT FELL INTO ONE...


NO WAY.
IT'S PROBABLY AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE!
IT MIGHT BE DEAD ALREADY.
K-TUNK


NAMI!
DON'T BE SO DAMN PESSIMISTIC!
I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU'RE SO OPTIMISTIC.
YOU HAVE YOUR HOPES UP TOO HIGH.
ESPECIALLY ABOUT YOUR FRIEND, HIROSE.
...!
A-AAAAAHH, IT'S OKAY! I SHOULDN'T HAVE MENTIONED IT...!
W-WELL, IT'S BEEN A WEEK ALREADY...
AND SHE'S SO OLD...


......
ポロ...
TRICKLE
MAYBE SHE'S...
DASH
HARU!
B-TAM


SH–
SHE LEFT
WITHOUT A
FLASHLIGHT!
IT'S
DANGEROUS
OUT
THERE!!
WHAP
HEY!
DON'T TELL
HER IT'S
DEAD!
DORK!
......
BUT YOU
DON'T
EVEN
KNOW
IF IT'S
ALIVE!


I'M PRETTY SURE IT'S ALIVE!
JUST SHUT UP AND LOOK FOR IT!
ODA-CHAN, LET'S GO FIND IT, TOO!
FWASH
I-I'M SORRY, EVERYONE!
I'M GOING, TOO!!
PLEASE STAY BACK, YOUNG MAN!
EH?
BUT...
N-NO WAY!
THERE'S SOMETHING HERE!!

WHAT'S THE MATTER?
!
OH, HE'S THE PRIEST...
SIGH
U-UMM, THE HORSE RAN OFF...


KANOU...
HOW CAN HE SAY SUCH THINGS...!
IT'S PROBABLY AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE!
I CAN'T STAND HIS CAREFREE ATTITUDE!!
SPLASH


KEEP OUT
EVEN AFTER SEEING WHAT HIROSE DID...
WHY DOESN'T HE LOSE HOPE?!
EVERYTHING CHANGED!
HIROSE...
YUTA AND KANOU, TOO...
EVEN ME...!
I...
KILLED HIM...!!


I CAN'T GO BACK ANYMORE!


SPLASH
IT'S ABOUT TO DIE...
HE WOULD PROBABLY HELP IT...
BUT...
THE ONLY THING THAT I CAN DO NOW IS TO RELIEVE IT...
SHNNKK


HARU!
HEEEY
HARUUU
HA...
.....
NAMI?!


HFF
HFF
URKK...
NAMI!
VRSSSHH
!?
AO!!


OKAY! LET'S PULL TOGETHER!!
Grunt!!
READY!
PULL!
PULL!
PULL!
AO, HANG ON!!
I SEE.


SO EVERYONE WENT TO GO FIND HER...?
YUP.
BUT YOU DIDN'T GO?
......
Darn.
I GUESS NOT!
WELL, YOU MADE THE RIGHT CHOICE.
THERE MUST BE A REASON WHY THE HORSE LEFT...
THEY SHOULD ACCEPT THAT AS FATE.


HUMANS TRY TO GO AGAINST EVERYTHING IN A FOOLISH MANNER.
AND THEY EVEN TRY TO DENY "DEATH," A GOD-GIVEN FATE...
THAT'S WHY THEY WEREN'T "CHOSEN"...
TO GATHER AROUND "ACRO'S HEART"...
WHAT IS "ACRO'S HEART"...?
ONLY THOSE WHO WERE CHOSEN TO CREATE A NEW WORLD WILL GATHER THERE.
"ACRO'S HEART" IS BASICALLY...
NOAH'S ARK.
BLIB..


THE HUMAN ERA WILL SOON END...
AND IT WILL BE OUR TURN...
CREAK
TO MAKE A PARADISE ON EARTH...
WITH OUR LEADER, "THE ONE"...!
BY THE WAY, I'M A COMRADE, JUST LIKE YOU.
I AM ASOU.


JUMP
YOU'RE ON KATSUMATA'S SIDE, AREN'T YOU!?
OH, I SEE.
KATSUMATA DIDN'T RECRUIT YOU...
HOW REGRET-FUL...
TO HAVE TO FIGHT A COMRADE.
I'LL ISOLATE HIM BEFORE HE MOVES!!
PLINK


DRIP
DRIP
LET'S PLAY.
LET'S PLAY.
YOU PROM-ISED...


WA... WA-WAH!?
BLOOMP
WH- WHAT IS THIS?
IT'S GROSS!!
UNFOR-TUNATELY, YOU CAN'T PLAY WITH HIM, RON-KUN.
HE HASN'T BEEN RECRUITED BY KATSUMATA-SAN.
HE'S OUR ENEMY.
AND HIS FRIENDS ARE ENEMIES, AS WELL.


OH NO...
THERE ARE...
TWO COM-RADES...!
PHEEEW, WE'RE SO MUDDY!
It's weighing me down...
SQUISH SQUISH
GRUNT
AO, I'M SO GLAD!!


WE DIDN'T KNOW THERE WAS A MARSH THERE... THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL!
THANK YOU, KUSUNOKI-SAN!
THANK YOU SO MUCH!
F-FORGET IT...
YEAH, YOU BETTER THANK NAMI, AHO!
YES, A-
MOON
GYAH!!
ズルズルズルズルズル...
SLITHER
SLITHER
WHOA!!
I THOUGHT IT WAS HARD TO WALK!!
Sir, your butt is exposed... your butt!!
GYAAAAAAAH


TSK...
!!
AH.
COME TO THINK OF IT...
......
A HA HA HA HA
Oops, forgot to tie this.


I HAVEN'T LAUGHED IN A LONG TIME...
YUTA, WE'RE BACK!
MURDERERS DON'T USUALLY HELP HORSES, RIGHT?
A-AMAMIYA-SAN...
HFF
HFF
ARE WE READING HIM ALL WRONG...?
WE DID IT, YUTA. WE FOUND HARU AND HER HORSE!
THE HORSE IS FINE...


YUTA...?
HEY.
TAP
TWITCH
NAMI.
YUTA...
AREN'T MOVING...


HUMANS CAME FROM THE EARTH...
AND WILL SOON BECOME HARD AS A ROCK...
AND EVENTUALLY RETURN TO THE EARTH AS ASH.


THE SAME FATE AWAITS UNWANTED COMRADES...
THEY WILL PERISH LIKE THE OTHER HUMANS.
Chapter 22/ End


# 最終進化的少年


# Alive

## The Final Evolution

# Light Visual Manga 6




PLOT/DESIGN: 1 YEAR
PRODUCTION: 12 HOURS
COST: 0 YEN
STAFF: ONLY ADACHITOKA
~~ALL AMERICANS~~ THE EDITORS CRIED
Get back to work!
I LOVE
CREAK...
ROLL...



AN ATHLETE!? HE'S SO COOL...!
SH-SHE'S CUTE!
BUT...I ONLY LIKE SOCCER...
SOCCER...!
PYON-SAMA!
STEEEEW
What the hell.
DUMP



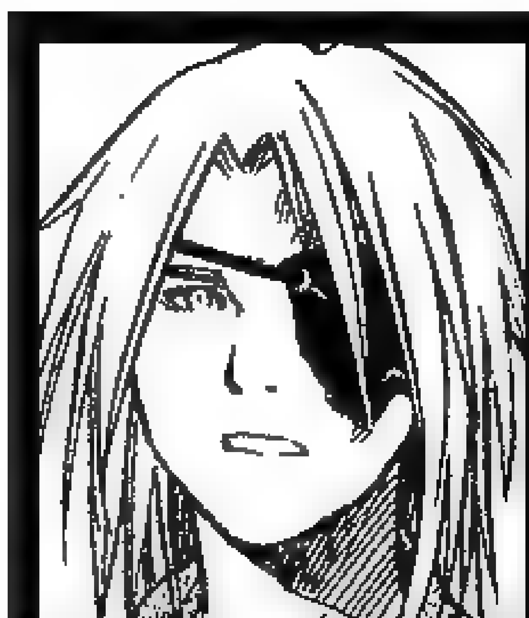
TOINK
せっせっせっ TOINK
ばっ RIP
ばっ RIP
ふぁ
ふぁ
ばっ RIP
ばっ RIP
ふぁ
ふぁ
STEW ♀
PYON ♂
Eeek
Kyaaa!
Kyaaa!
She's ripping him up... but why?
AHAHA
RIP RIP
Eeep eeep!
Phew...
TREMBLE
TREMBLE...
Pfft!
ドドドドドドズ
SCRAMBLE
SCRAMBLE
KICK
DRAG DRAG...
ズルズルズルズル....
CHOMP
Eeep
STOOOP! DON'T HURT PYON! PLEEEEASE!
Bwahaha
HAA HA HAH
MUJOU-SAN, A STAFF MEMBER (SORRY FOR LAUGHING)
OHH, THAT FELT GOOD.
Kanon is such a great actress. ♡
I'LL STICK WITH SOCCER FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!!
SO, STEW'S ARRANGED MARRIAGE RESULTED IN FAILURE.
Fin
DEAR READERS,
SORRY FOR DOING ANOTHER RABBIT STORY.
DEAR TAISHOU KAZUYA-SAN,
SORRY FOR MAKING YOU INTO OKADA.
DEAR EDITOR,
SORRY FOR MISSING MY DEADLINES.
DEAR WRITER,
SORRY FOR PLAYING WITH YOUR CHARACTERS WITHOUT YOUR CONSENT.
ADACHITOKA
Thank you for reading this far!!

# Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

### *Kamaitachi,* page 3

*Kamaitachi* was a mythical phenomenon, where winds would mysteriously cut or slice people and objects like a *kama* (sickle). It was thought to be caused by an *itachi* (weasel), so the term *kamaitachi* (sickle weasel) came about.

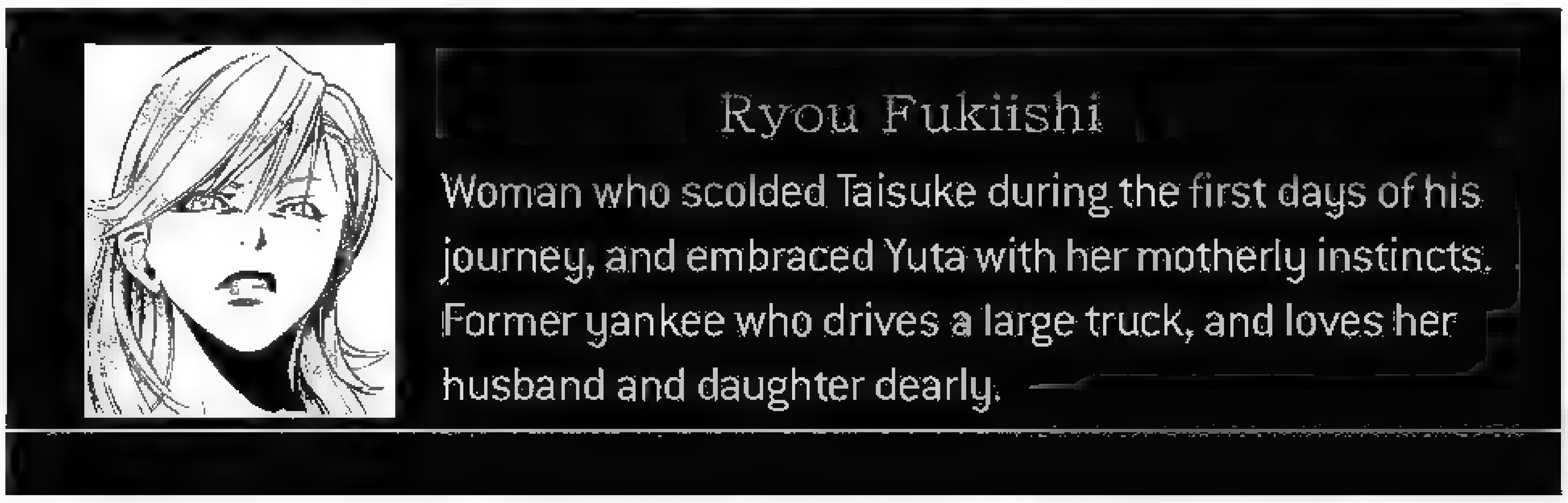


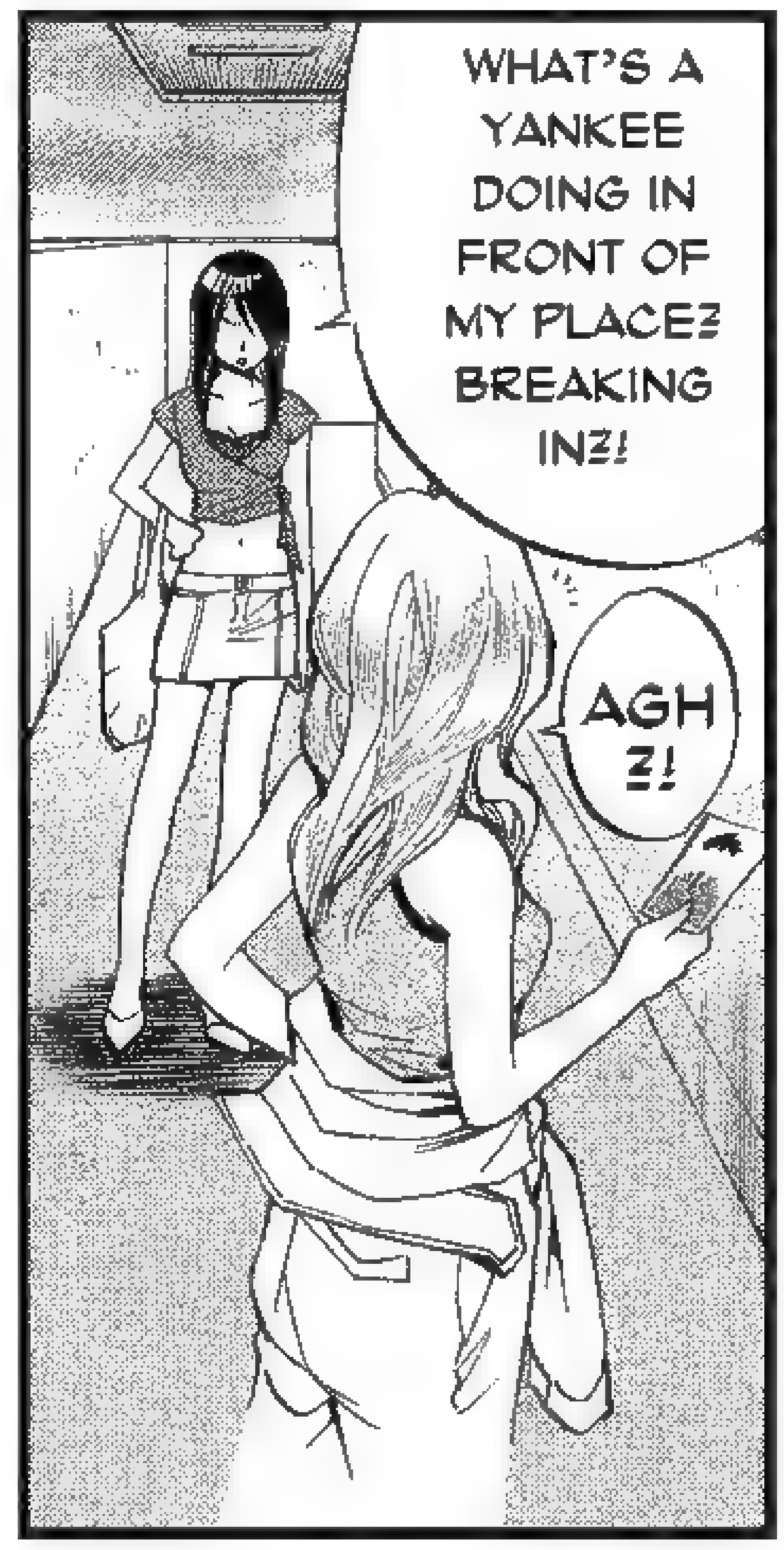
Kenichirou Morio

One of Katsumata's comrades. Controls wind to create sharp blades of air like a *kamaitachi* to slice humans. Hates Taisuke for leaving a permanent scar on his face.

## *Yankee,* pages 3 and 18

Ryo was a former *yankee* (nickname for members of the *bousouzoku,* a Japanese racing gang) back in her schoolgirl days. *Bousouzoku* members did not follow traffic rules much, got tangled with the police often, and fought other gangs over territories. There were both all-female and all-male *bousouzoku*.



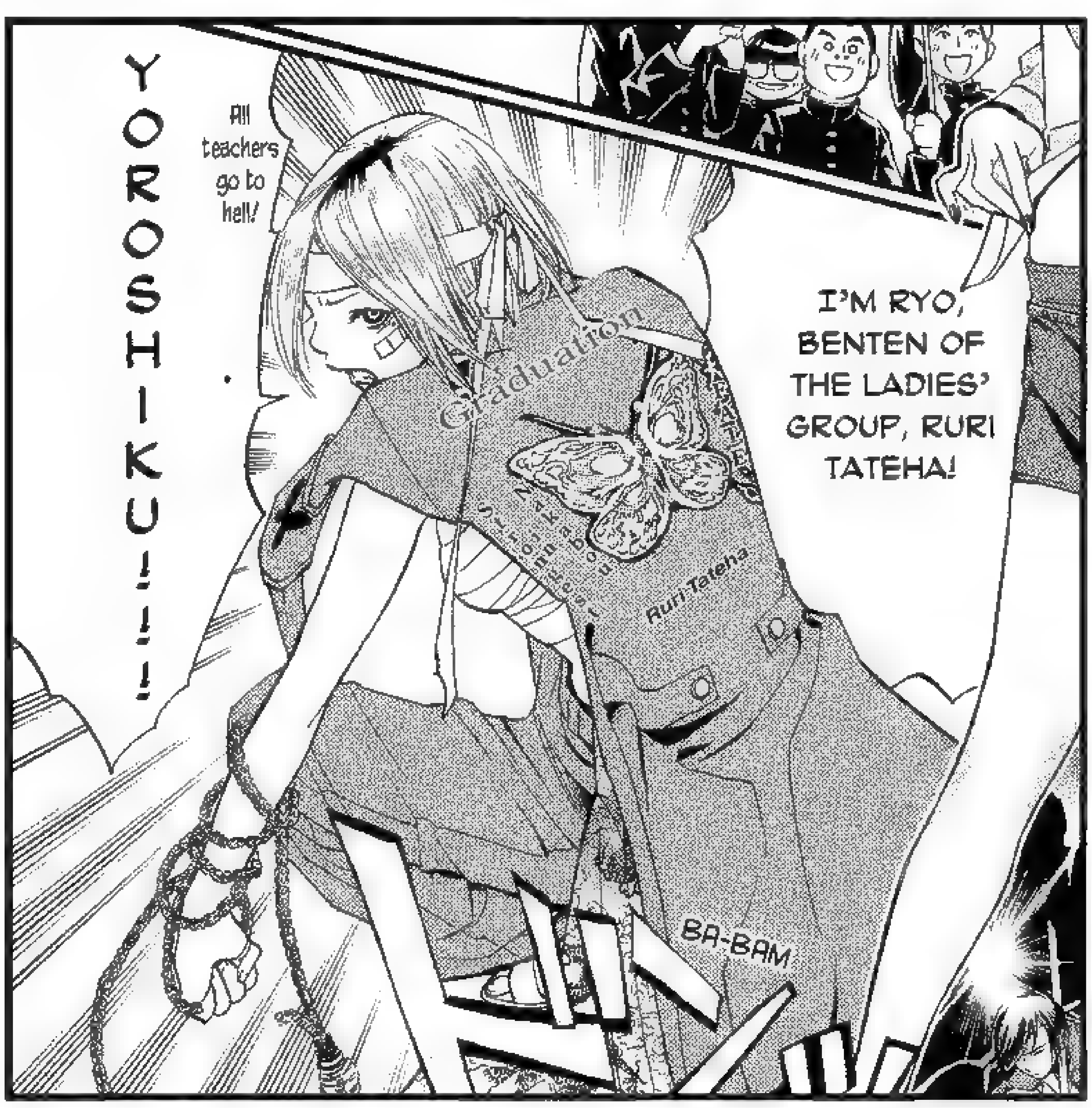




## Police Box, page 5

In Japan, a police box, or *kōban*, is a kiosk from which the members of the neighorhood police force operate. It allows police officers to more closely observe and interact with the community than operating from a police station might.

## *Benten* rank, page 19

*Bousouzoku* (see above) organizations have a strict rank structure, with *souchou* being the gang leader, and *benten* ranking usually in the top five posts (varies between gangs, though).



### *Ruri Tateha, Yoroshiku,* page 19

*Bousouzoku* [see previous page] tend to use difficult kanji with excessive stroke counts to spell out their words phonetically. The kanji characters in the phrase *Yoroshiku* ["Nice to meet you"] are, as normally written, simple kanji, but the *bousouzoku* write it as the literal translation of each kanji character—"Night-Dew-Death-Suffer." *Ruri Tateha* [literally "Lapis Lazuli-Sword Fight-Champion"] is possibly Ryo's former racing gang name.

### "Reverting to my old ways," page 20

Ryo was a former *yankee* [see previous page] back in her schoolgirl days. Ryo talked about "reverting to my old ways," meaning that she picked fights or stared people down out of habit.




### *Sempai,* page 43

*Sempai* means "senior" in Japanese. In this case, Amamiya is senior to Oda-chan in the office, so she refers to herself as *sempai*.



## "Taisuke Kanou!!" and "We like curry!!" pages 48, 55, and 56

The actual Japanese sentence that Amamiya and Oda blurted was *"Kanou Taisuke daah!!"* (It's Taisuke Kanou!!), which sounds similar to the second Japanese sentence they blurted, *"Karee daisuki daah!!"* (We love curry!!). They told an outrageous lie to conceal their identities and motives from Taisuke's group.










## *Korobokkuru* (or *koropokkuru*), pages 103 and 104

*Korobokkuru* are a race of small people in Ainu folklore. *Korobokkuru* means "people under the leaves of the butterbur plant" in the Ainu language. The Ainu believed the *korobokkuru,* who were short, agile, and skilled at fishing, lived on Ainu land long before the Ainu themselves.





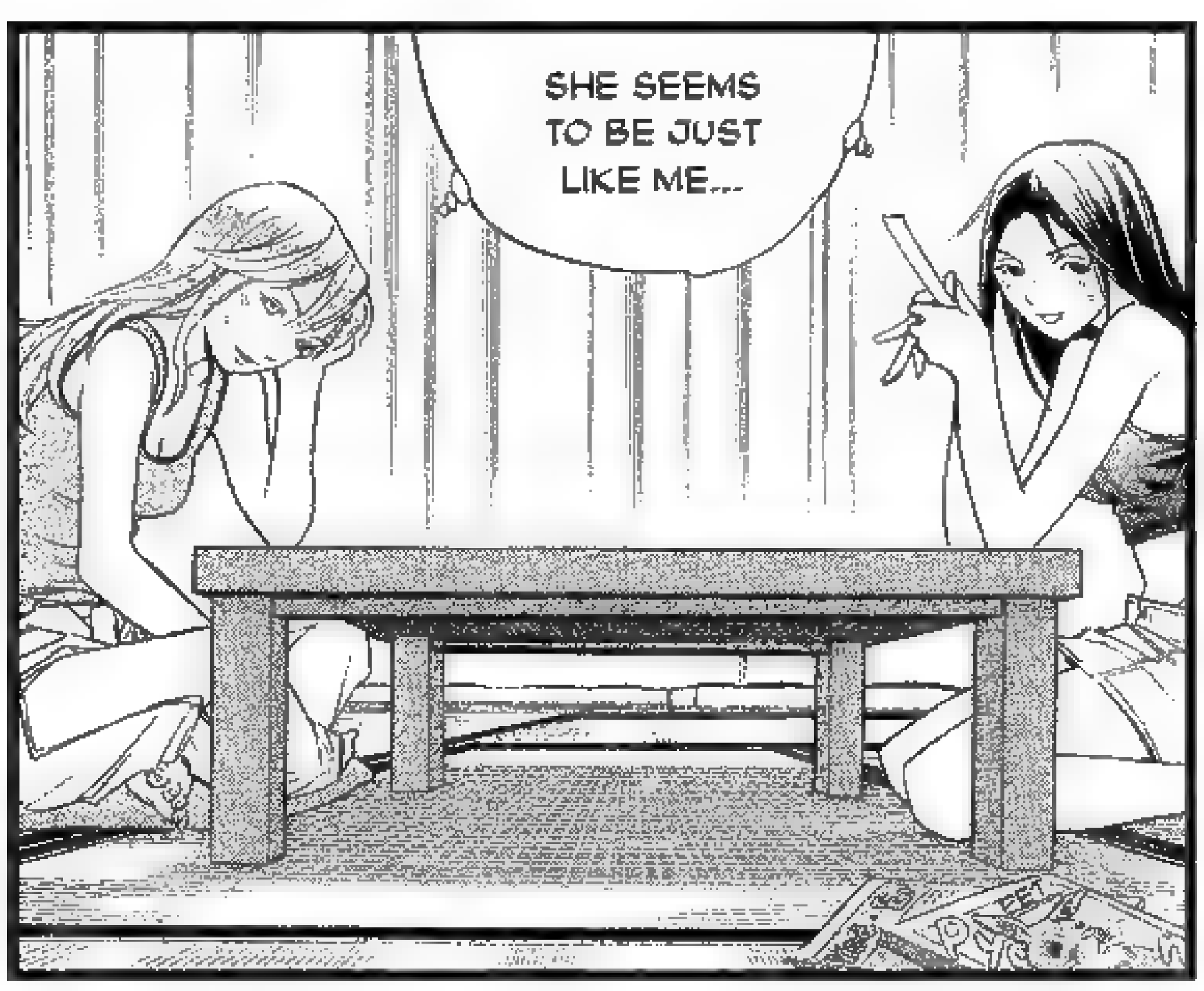

### *Aho*, pages 105, 115, 116, and 171

*Aho* means "fool" or "idiot." Taisuke misheard Haruka when she said her horse's name, Ao.




### *Pyon*, pages 20 and 196

*Pyon* is an onomatopoeia for "hop" in Japanese. Also, *Pyon* is the name of a rabbit owned by the artist's staff member. Previously, the word *pyon* was used as a part of pun in volume 5, page 92 (*Pyon* Quixote) and on magazine covers in this volume on pages 20 and 25.

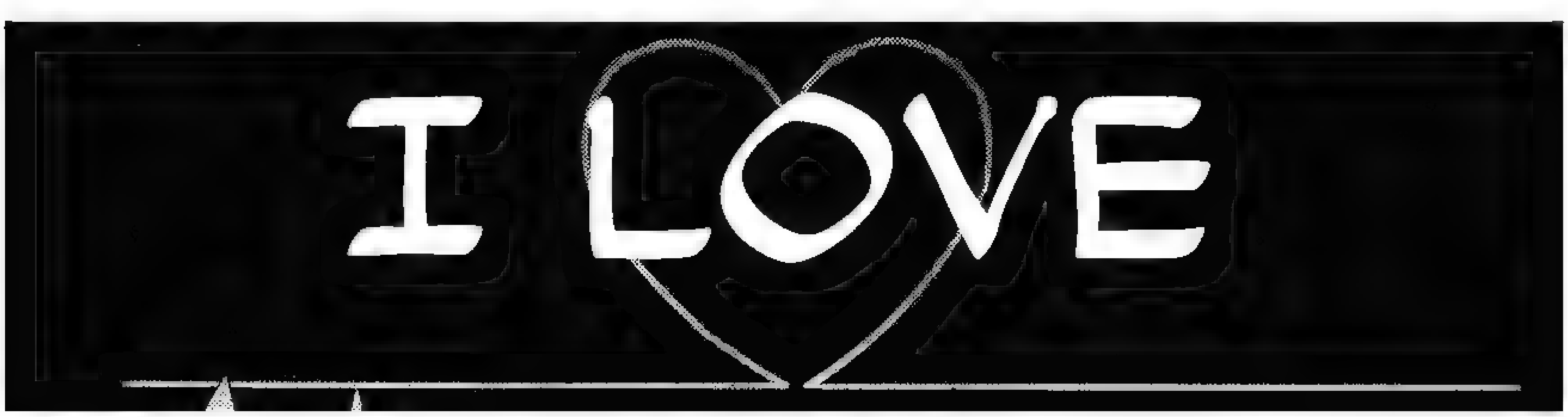






### "I Love," page 197

The movie title "I Love" is the artist's pun for the title "ALIVE." The Japanese title of "ALIVE" uses four *katakana* characters, A-RA-I-BU (ALIVE), but for this parody movie, he interchanged the second and third *katakana* characters to make A-I-RA-BU (I Love).



# Honorifics Explained

Throughout the Del Rey Manga books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Del Rey not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Del Rey Manga.

**-san:** This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., or Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

**-sama:** This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

**-dono:** This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

**-kun:** This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

**-chan:** This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

**Bozu:** This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

**Sempai/**
**Senpai:** This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

**Kohai:** This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

**Sensei:** Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

**-[blank]:** This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute,* it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

We're pleased to present you a preview from *Alive* volume 7. Please check our website (www.delreymanga.com) to see when this volume will be available in English. For now you'll have to make do with Japanese!

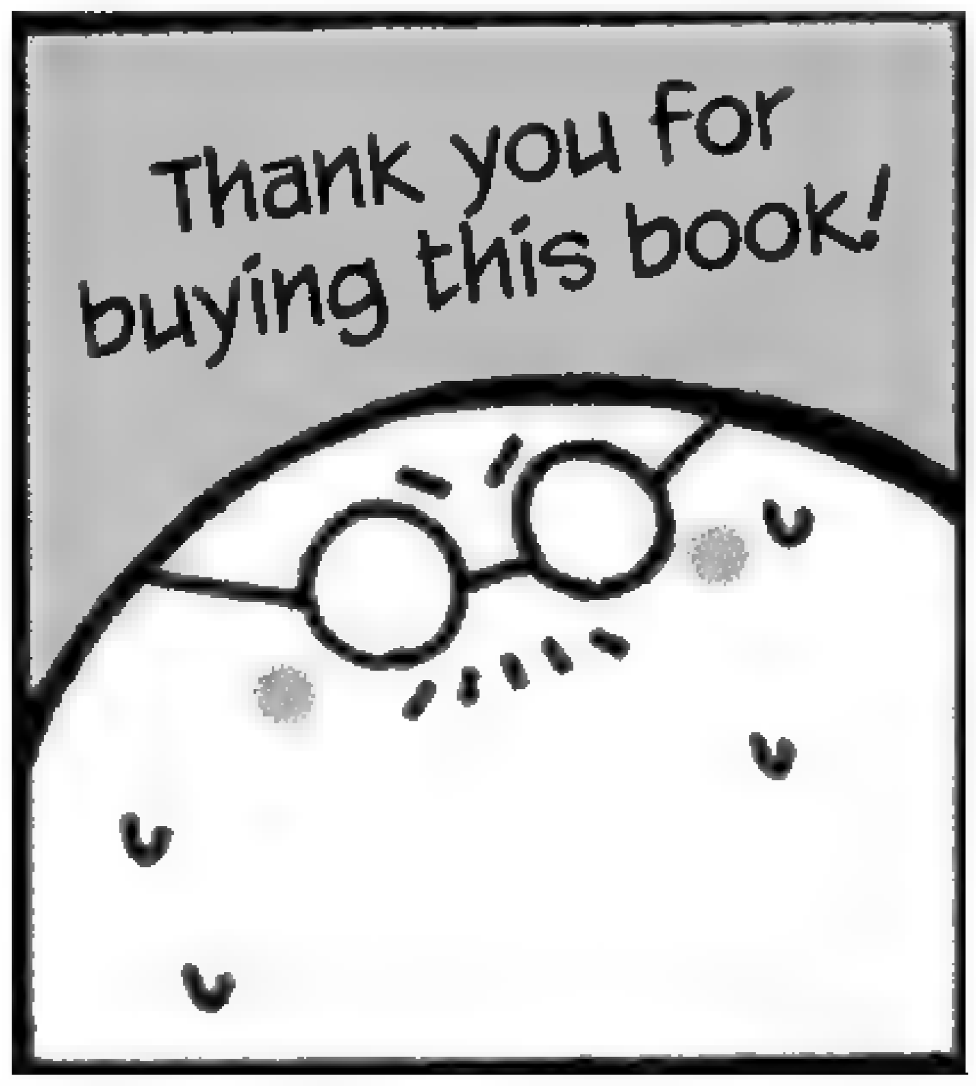



ひゃは―♥


最後の〝仲間〟は湖で合流か
準備は上々と・・・・
ドン。。。
ゴボッ。。
ゴッゴッ
ドォン。。。
・・・あいつはなにをしている
ゴッゴ
ゴッゴッ
ああ 彼の能力は破壊に向いてないからね
ゲェップ。
なに 彼にもちゃんと大事な仕事がある
岡田君


ガガガ
ゴガガッ
ドォーーン
!
ガサッ
ぶへへ
ぶへへへ♡
ふーっ
はふーっ はふっ
ふーっ
はふー
はふっ
ふーっ
は 初めまして
メグちゃん♡


……
フラ
ちょっ ちょっと
どこ行くの….
ひ….
広瀬く….
こ こら
逃げるなっ
逃げるなって
言ってるだろ!
ぶっ殺すぞ!?
ドスドスドスドス
……….
ぜーっ
ぜーっ
そ そうそう
おとなしくしてれば
いいんだよ….
ガタガタガタ
ところで
さぁ….
叶太輔って
知ってる?




**Tadashi Kawashima**

Taisuke is weak, but he gives his all. That's why he makes a great protagonist. ☺




**Adachitoka**

During work, chewing gum is my best friend. Oh, and coffee, too.

**ALIVE 6**

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YUTA ISN'T MOVING...
!
KANOU! HE'S A COMRADE!
DID YOU DO THIS!?
WHAT DID YOU DO TO YUTA?!


WELL...
I JUST HASTENED HIS IMPENDING DEATH, THAT'S ALL.
Chapter 23
Wait a Minute!
Men tire themselves in pursuit of rest.


?
WHAT'S UP?
WHY YOU!
!
JERK!!
SWAK



VWMM
WSSS
Huh?
SHNNKK
!?
FLING


FWSSS
ZA-ZAT
CHNK
WH-WHAT...?
FSHHHHWW
SPRAKK
KYAAAAAH


GRIP
OWW...
NAMI...
YOUR POWER IS PECULIAR...
HOP
BUT...
PLUCK
YOU'RE NOT WANTED, EITHER...
VWMM
CRACK


!!
MY POWER TO "PETRIFY" WILL REDUCE BOTH OF YOU TO ASH...
CRUMBLE
P-PETRIFY!?
SO YUTA HAS BEEN...!!
THE BOY IS STILL ALIVE.
HUMANS HAVE A STRONG WILL, SO THEY WON'T DIE AS QUICKLY.
BUT HE WILL ONLY LAST FOR ANOTHER TEN MINUTES OR SO...
IT IS THE AMOUNT OF TIME GOD HAS GIVEN HUMANS FOR REPENTANCE.


PLEASE DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT.
PEOPLE ARE PURIFIED THROUGH DEATH.
SENDING THEM TO DEATH IS MY KINDEST GESTURE.
SORRY, BUDDY!
I DON'T GIVE A CRAP ABOUT YOUR GESTURE OR GOD!
BRING BACK YUTA!!
DASH


I SUPPOSE...
I WILL SPAR WITH YOU A BIT.
WHUD
MY DUTY IS TO PROTECT GOD, SO I HAVE TRAINED IN MARTIAL ARTS.
YOUR SIMPLE ATTACKS WON'T WORK ON ME.


COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
THIS IS LIKE CHILD'S PLAY.
BUT...
YOU SEEM TO BE CONFIDENT OF YOUR SKILLS!
GRIP
SNAG


TWIST
GRIIP
!?
SWING
BUMP


SLIP
COUGH
HFF
HFF
TRO
TROT
TROT
STRONG...!
......
THIS MAN IS...
GRIP


WH-WHY IS A CHILD HERE...?
GO AWAY, IT'S DANGER-OUS...!
MELT
N...
NO.
I...
W...
WANT TO...
BLOOMP


BLOOOMP
PLAY...
VWOOOSH
KYA...
WHA-
WHA?
SQUIRM
SQUIRM
SLRSSH
SLURRRP
!


THAT'S NOT FAIR, ASOU...
ぷるるw
PLOOMP
I WANT TO PLAY, TOO...
RO-RON-KUN...
You went through there on purpose, didn't you?
FLUSH
I'M NOT PLAYING...
CLENCH


WHAT...?
Hah
ENOUGH!!
WHAT...?
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
YOU'RE NOT... AFRAID OF ME?
HAH! NOT EVEN!!
STOMP
STOMP
Eeeek
STREETCH
YOU DON'T THINK I FEEL GROSS...?
LOOKED LIKE IT FELT GOOD!!
YOU KNOW,
YOU PROB-ABLY HAVE A GREAT TIME WITH YOUR BODY!!


TSK
RON-KUN, WHY DON'T YOU PLAY WITH HIM FOR A WHILE?
SHNKK
HUH?
GO! HE'S A COMRADE, TOO!
EH?
REALLY?
YEAH.
KANG
BUT NAMI, YOU CAN'T FIGHT HIM ALONE...
WHACK
ZAK
SPLASH
CRACK


JAB
YOU'RE IN THE WAY!
SPAK
BUTT OUT.
JUMP
Rider House
Cha-cha
LET'S PLAY.
WAIT!
KYA
KYA
LET'S PLAY.


SPRAKK
Rider House
Cha-cha
Restaurant and cafe
Welcome
Wait!
JOLT
WH-
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, ODA-CHAN?!
WE LEFT THE CAMERA IN THE LODGE... WE SHOULD GO GET IT!
DRAG
DRAG
DRAG
WE SHOULD FORGET THIS! AMAMIYA-SAN!! LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!!
PLOOMP
THEY'RE MONSTERS! WE'LL BE KILLED!!
SPRAKK


THIS REPORT IS TOO OVER-WHELMING!!
AREN'T YOU AFRAID, AMAMIYA-SAN!?
OF COURSE I'M AFRAID!
BUT...!
OBSERVE! TAKE PHOTOS! WRITE!
THAT'S A REPORTER'S MISSION, RIGHT!?
Aim for
the Pulitzer Prize!
LOOK, TAISUKE KANOU IS RUNNING OFF!
LET'S GO AFTER HIM!
Noooo waaaay!


むっちゃらくっちゃら
CHEW
CHEW
むっちゃらくっちゃら
CHOMP
CHOMP
もふもふ
SCARF
SCARF
SHE HASN'T EATEN FOR A WEEK.
FEED HER UNTIL SHE'S STUFFED, HARU!
AO
AO? YOU LIKE IT?
I'M... SO HAPPY...
GRUNT...


WAIT!
DAMMIT, WHERE IS IT?!
I'M HERE.
HURRY UP AND FIND ME.
KANOU-SAN!
WHAT'S WRONG?
TROT TROT
AH, HARU!
ARE YOU AND YOUR FATHER ALL RIGHT?!
EH? Y-YES.
STAY BACK IN THE BARN!


Oh crap!
OH YEAH, WHERE ARE AMAMIYA-SAN AND ODA-CHAN!?
I DUNNO...
I WONDER IF THEY'RE OKAY...
J-JUST GET BACK IN!
I'M HERE...
?
I WAS PLAYING WITH HIM FIRST...
IT'S HER FAULT...
I HATE HER!
I'LL KILL HER
VWOOOSH


!!
BLOOOMP
HA...
HARU!?
......
GLURBB
WHY YOU...
BLOO-BLOOMP
GET OFF!


I WON'T LET YOU DROWN HER...!
FSSSSHH
OPEN
!?
GRIP
KYAAA
VWOOOSH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
HARU, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!


HE BURNED ME.
THAT MEANIE!
HFF
HFF
HE HURT ME.
BLMP
I'LL KILL HIM.
VWOOOSH
I'LL KILL HI...
STOMP
GYU


GOOD JOB, AHO!
IT'S A... AO...
COUGH
COUGH
GYUUU...
JUST STAY IN THIS BAG!
UK-YUUU...
TIE
NOW BACK TO NAMI!
?
?


SWAK
OUTSTANDING! IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'VE TRAINED IN MARTIAL ARTS FROM A YOUNG AGE, TOO.
FOR A YOUNG GIRL, YOU HAVE GREAT BODY CONTROL.
TMP
TMP



BUT, YOU'RE ONLY...
KICK
!
HALFWAY THERE!
JUMP


SLASH
HRK...
LIFT
DID YOU NOTICE?
!
YOU MAY HAVE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF THE WET SURFACE...
BUT YOU MADE TOO MANY ICICLES...
WHICH RESTRICTED YOUR AREA AND MADE YOUR MOVES PREDICTABLE.


TWITCH
SHALL WE CONTINUE SPARRING, YOUNG LADY?
SWAK
NAMI!
ARE YOU OKAY?!


I'M TOTALLY FINE.
OH, BUT SHE'S SO PISSED.
SHIVER
ブルルル
はぁー
SIGH
BUT...
HE'S A BIT TROUBLE-SOME...
IF I TOUCH HIM, I'LL BE PETRIFIED.
SO I TRIED FIGHTING HIM FROM A DISTANCE, BUT THAT RESTRICTED MY MOVEMENTS INSTEAD.
AND WITH THAT UMBRELLA, IT'S HARD TO DIVE IN...
HE'S TOO DIFFICULT TO CATCH...
YUTA...
CRUM-BLE


......
HEY...SO WE JUST NEED TO CATCH HIM, RIGHT...?
?
I HAVE AN IDEA!
IT'S MY TURN TO ATTACK.


WOOOSH
JAB
JAB
JAB
JAB
JAB


SHTT
URKK...
SHTT
NAMI!
POINT
BUTT OUT.
—!
DASH
!


WAIT!
CRACK
CRACK
CRACK
CRACK
SNIP
URK...
SNIP
SNIP


IT'S NOT YOUR STYLE...
TO RUN AWAY LIKE THIS!
STILL RUNNING?
JUMP


I'M BUTTING IN!
?
FSSSHH
FSSSHH
GRIP


U...
RAAAAH!!
FSSSHH
WOBBLE
!?
GO, NAMI!


OH, I SEE!
HIS POWER IS "HEAT."
ASPHALT IS MAINLY MADE OF OIL.
HEATING IT SUDDENLY WILL MAKE IT SLUSHY.
ADD TO THAT THESE
SHNKK
SHNNKK
AND I'M STUCK...!


WHOOOMMN


GOTCHA!
SIGH
......
CRINKLE
CRINKLE
PHEW
I SURRENDER...
GREAT!
NOW WE CAN GET YUTA BACK...!


YU...
OH...
YOU WERE A BIT TOO LATE.

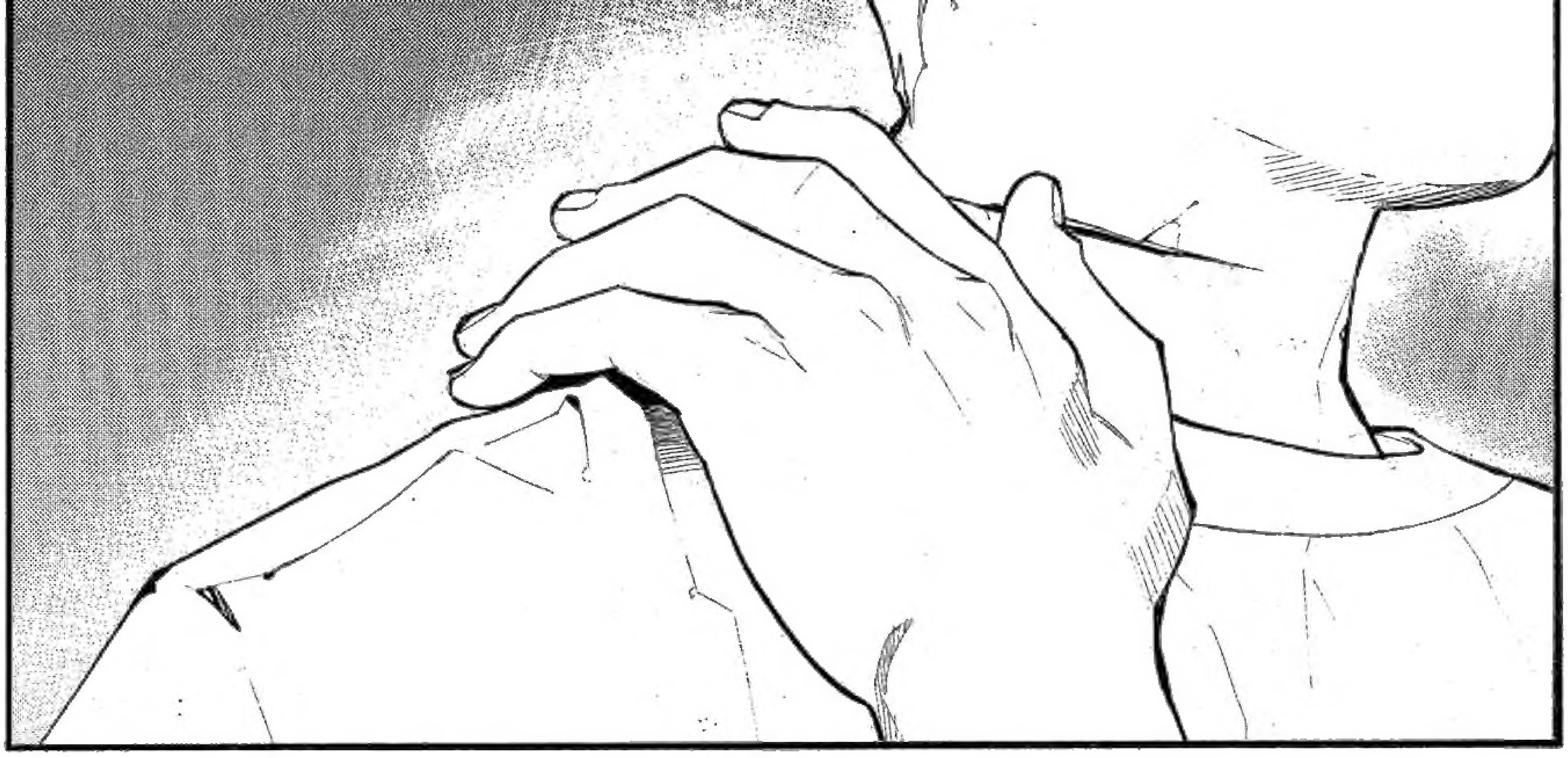

CRUMBLE
CRACK
CRACK
EH...?
WA...
WAIT A MINUTE!
AH.
TINK
TINK
H-
HEY...
YUTA!?

CRACK
HAH
CRUMBLE...





HE WON'T COME BACK.
MY POWER IS IRREVERSIBLE.
BUT YOU SHOULDN'T GRIEVE HIS DEATH...
BECAUSE HE HAS FINALLY RETURNED TO GOD...
FMMM...





SSSST...
Hff


...AH
TAISUKE.
YES?
GONG
OWW...
THAT HURT, YOU DUMB-ASS!!
HEH?
...WHOAH
YUTA CAME BACK!!


IMPOS-SIBLE...
HE WAS COMPLETELY PETRIFIED...
HIS POWER ISN'T MERELY "HEAT"?!
WHAT EXACTLY IS HIS POWER...?!
Continued in volume 7